

JPRS-UPS-85-036

29 April 1985

USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS



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INTERNATIONAL

DIPLOMAT RECALLS RESULTS OF WW II YALTA, TEHRAN CONFERENCES

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 1, 2 Feb 85

[Article by Valentin Berezhkov: "Not Subject to Revision"]

[1 Feb 85 p 3].

[Text] V. M. Berezhkov was in diplomatic work for many years. As a member of Soviet delegations, he was present at the most important international meetings, including at the Moscow Conference of Foreign Ministers of the USSR, the United States, and Great Britain (1943), the Tehran Conference of the leaders of the three great powers of the anti-Hitler coalition (1943), and the Dumbarton-Oaks Conference (United States, 1944).

The Crimean (Yalta) meeting of the leaders of the three powers of the anti-Hitler coalition, which took place during 4-11 February 1945, went down in history as a convincing example of the possibility of effective cooperation of states with different social systems. The decisions adopted at the conference concerning the postwar order were in many respects conducive to the fact that already two new generations on the European continent are enjoying the fruits of a peaceful life.

The urgent necessity of recalling the results of the Yalta Conference is related to the intensified attacks on its decisions. Thus, U. S. President Reagan, appearing before Americans of Polish descent, called in essence for the revision of the Yalta decisions. This encouraged the West German revanchists, who in their turn intensified their attacks on the postwar regulation and are demanding the revision of the existing borders in Europe. It is significant that these elements are enjoying high protection in the FRG. In Bonn, chancellor H. Kohl and the minister-president of Bavaria, F.-J. Strauss delivered speeches at the meeting of the so-called "East German associations of countrymen" which go to make up the revanchist "League of Expelled Persons".

What in the Yalta decisions does not suit the people who want to blow up the agreements which have secured for Europe the longest peaceful period in all of its centuries-old history?

In this connection, I would like to examine two problems that were discussed at the Crimean Conference--the German and the Polish problems, since it is they

[Text bottom of page]: The article will be published in full in the journal SShA: EKONOMIKA, POLITIKA, IDEOLOGIYA, No 2, 1985.

which are most of all surrounded by speculations at the present time.

By the time of the opening of the Yalta Conference, the Red Army was located 60 kilometers from Berlin and had seized a number of bridgeheads on the Oder River. Soviet troops had basically completed the liberation of Poland and of a significant part of Czechoslovakia. Thanks to the swift attack by the Red Army, developed after the dramatic appeal of Washington and London requesting assistance, the breakthrough of the front in the Ardennes by the Germans was liquidated and the Anglo-American troops went over to a counterattack. Heavy battles were still ahead, but no doubt remained in anyone's mind that Hitler's Germany was doomed.

The heads of the governments--I. V. Stalin, F. Roosevelt, and W. Churchill--concentrated their basic attention on the political problems resulting from the unconditional capitulation of Germany that lay ahead. At the Crimean Conference, the three powers proclaimed that their "inexorable goal is the destruction of German militarism and Nazism and the creation of guarantees to the effect that Germany will never again be in a position to violate the peace of the entire world." At the same time, it was emphasized that the goals of the three powers "do not include the destruction of the German people", and that "only when Nazism and militarism will be eradicated will there be hope for a worthy existence for the German people and a place for it in the community of nations."

Thus, the agreed-upon policy of the participants of the Yalta Meeting with respect to Germany was based on the principles of its democratization and demilitarization. However, the question of the dismemberment of Germany, earlier introduced by Washington and London, remained unsolved.

In particular, already at the Moscow Conference of the three foreign ministers in October 1943 in "The American Proposal Concerning the Treatment of Germany" the possibility was discussed of creating "several separate states on the territory of the present Reich". In the course of the discussion of this document, the foreign minister of England, Anthony Eden, declared: "We would like the division of Germany into separate states". . .

At the Tehran Conference, this problem was presented already by the highest leaders of the Western powers. I will cite a short excerpt from the protocol of the conference:

"Stalin. What proposals are there with respect to this problem?

Roosevelt. The dismemberment of Germany.

Churchill. I am for the dismemberment of Germany. But I would like to think over the question regarding the dismemberment of Prussia. I am for the separation of Bavaria from Germany.

Roosevelt. In order to stimulate our discussion with respect to this question, I would like to set forth the plan for the dismemberment of Germany into five states which was developed by me personally two months ago."

The plan of the U.S. president reduced itself to the creation of pygmean states in the place of Germany: Prussia, Hannover, Saxonia; the Hessen provinces and regions located to the south of the Rhine [as published]; and, finally, Bavaria, Baden, and Wuerttemberg.

Churchill expounded his variant of the dismemberment of Germany into several separate states, envisaging the inclusion of the southern provinces of Prussia in a "Danube Confederation". Having listened to these ideas, I. V. Stalin objected to the Churchillian enterprise with the new associations. Further he declared that "Roosevelt's plan concerning the weakening of Germany may be reviewed", although he referred to it skeptically.

President Roosevelt, in his turn, spoke in favor of the breaking up [of Germany], having proposed to charge the three foreign ministers with the preparation of a plan for the appropriate procedure. At the next meeting, the heads of the governments approved the proposal of the three foreign ministers concerning the creation of a special commission of representatives of the United States, England and the USSR for the study of this question.

When the question of tearing away some territories from Germany was discussed at Livadiya, Churchill remarked that "there are circles in England who are intimidated by the idea of the eviction of a large number of Germans." For his part, Stalin stated that "in those parts of Germany which are occupied by the Red Army, there is almost no German population."

We must dwell especially on this question. In West Germany there are now quite a few clamorous organizations of the so-called "expellees" from the "Eastern territories". Their associations of countrymen are perhaps the most active component of the revanchist forces in the FRG, demanding the revision of the European borders. The matter is represented as if during the last months of the war the mass expulsion of Germans into the West took place and the blame for this is laid on the Soviet Union. But here in the protocols of the Crimean Conference we find an authoritative declaration concerning the fact that in the regions that were occupied by Soviet troops there turned out to be almost no Germans. What is the point here?

I happened to meet many emigrants from East Prussia and Silesia in West Germany. They recount that the local Nazi Fuehrer and SS-detachments compelled the population by force to abandon their towns and villages before the arrival of the Red Army. The well-known West German journalist Countess Marion Doenhoff writes about the chaos that reigned in East Prussia, when the population received strict orders from the local authorities "to all as one" to gather their belongings within a few hours and to leave for the West. Doenhoff herself, having abandoned her native estate of Kwitania in mid-January 1945, found herself in the stream of refugees, among whom heavily-wounded German soldiers dragged along, who were thrown out of the hospitals by the Nazi authorities in -20° C. weather.

The discussion of the plans for the dismemberment of Germany showed that the English and American delegations, which had taken the initiative in this question, began to deviate from their previous positions and to maneuver with the aim of delaying the solution. By what was this caused?

Seeing in Germany an imperialist competitor, the ruling circles of the United States and England sought to weaken it to the maximum extent as a dangerous competitor. At the same time, another goal was also pursued: Having dismembered Germany, to make its fragments completely dependent on the Western powers and to use them in future anti-Soviet adventures. Similar designs were also related to plans for the resurrection of Poland as an active participant of an anti-Soviet "cordon sanitaire". When they understood in Washington and London that Poland was being resurrected on a completely different basis, one friendly to the Soviet Union, the rethinking of the dismemberment of Germany began. This country was already again conceived by some Western figures as a bulwark against "Bolshevism".

The chief of the Imperial General Staff of Great Britain, Alanbrooke, wrote in his diary: "To dismember Germany, or to transform it gradually into an ally so as to repulse in 20 years the threat from the Russians, which exists already now? I proposed the second and was convinced that henceforth we must look at Germany from a completely different point of view."

Preparing for the Yalta Conference, Churchill send Eden a note, in which, in particular, he said: "We will still have to settle the practical questions of the division of Germany, to solve the question of [our] attitude toward the industry of the Ruhr and the Saar, etc. These questions, possibly, will be broached at our forthcoming meeting, but I doubt whether any final solution will be reached at it. Nobody can say now what the position of Europe will be, how the relations between the great powers will develop. . . For this reason it makes good sense not to make a final decision as long as possible, until all the facts and all the forces, which will make themselves felt at the given moment, will become known."

All of these considerations became known not long ago at all, when the secret archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Great Britain were opened. But already then, in 1945, the Soviet side guessed the meaning of the maneuvers of the Western powers. After the Crimean Conference, prior to the beginning of his work in the London Commission on the Dismemberment of Germany, the Soviet representative, Ambassador F. T. Gusev, was sent an explanation with the following contents from Moscow: "The English and the Americans, who were the first to raise the question of the dismemberment of Germany, now want to heap the blame for the dismemberment on the USSR in order to blacken our state in the eyes of world public opinion." Proceeding from this, the Soviet representative was ordered to declare at the meeting of the commission on 26 March 1945 that "the Soviet Union understands the decision of the Crimean Conference on the dismemberment of Germany not as an obligatory plan for the dismemberment of Germany, but as a possible perspective for pressure on Germany with the goal of securing it in case other means turn out to be inadequate."

Since the Soviet government clearly indicated by this declaration that it did not support the program for the dismemberment of Germany, the question was removed from the agenda. Soon after this, Moscow made a completely clear and public announcement concerning its position of principle. On 9 May 1945, on the Day of Victory over Hitler Germany, the head of the USSR government, in an address to the Soviet people, said: "Germany has been smashed. The German troops are capitulating. The Soviet Union is celebrating victory, although it does not intend to either dismember or to destroy Germany."

Repulsing the revanchist talk in the FRG "about the existence of a German Reich in the borders of 1937", as an ostensibly open German question, the general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, E. Honecker, has pointed to the utterly hopeless calculations to attain advantages at the expense of the sovereignty of the GDR, Poland, the CSSR and the Soviet Union. "All of these calculations," the GDR leader emphasized, "are pointless in any case."

Two other questions became the subject of especially pointed discussions in Yalta: The borders of the Polish state and the character of the government of revived Poland.

During the period between the Tehran and the Crimean conferences, the problem of Poland was discussed in detail by the leaders of the three powers in their correspondence, as well as during the visit of the British prime minister in Moscow in October 1944. The prime minister of the Polish government in exile in London, S. Mikolajczyk, also participated in the exchange of views.

In the course of these talks, the Soviet Union invariably came out in favor of the recreation of Poland as a strong, independent and democratic state. Having cleansed Polish lands of the Nazi occupiers at the cost of great sacrifices, the USSR set only two conditions: The establishment of the border in accordance with the Curzon line and the formation of a government that would be free of pro-fascist elements and would pursue a friendly policy with respect to its Eastern neighbor.

The Curzon line was proposed in 1919 by the governments of the Entente as the Polish-Soviet border after the victory of the October Revolution had created the conditions for the formation of an independent Polish state.

Having proposed in Tehran that the Eastern frontier of Poland should pass through the Curzon line, Churchill actually acknowledged the border of 1939. In essence, President Roosevelt also agreed with this, although with some reservations. The participants of the Tehran Meeting also agreed that Poland must pursue a friendly policy with respect to the Soviet Union.

In spite of this agreement in principle, the Polish problem remained a subject of discussion. Soon after the Tehran Conference, W. Churchill sent the head of the Soviet government a message, in which he reported on his conversation with representatives of the Polish government in exile in London.

[2 Feb 85 p 3]

While the increasingly fascist-oriented Polish government in exile in London engaged in anti-Soviet intrigues, important social and political advances took place in the territories liberated by the Red Army together with parts of the Polish Army. The democratic forces were strengthened and the Polish state was revived. The Krajowa Rada Narodowa--the highest organ of the democratic forces in the underground--was created. Soon a temporary executive organ of power--the Polish Committee of National Liberation (PKNO)--appeared, which proclaimed

as the basis of its foreign policy, alliance and friendship with the Soviet Union, recognized the Eastern border of the country in accordance with the Curzon line, and demanded the return of the primordial Polish lands in the West to Poland.

In the liberated Polish territories, democratic freedoms were guaranteed and measures to improve the condition of the working masses in town and country were put into effect. The governments of the United States and England exerted great pressure on the Soviet Union, aiming at its recognition of the authority of the London Polish Government in the regions of Poland liberated by the Red Army. From the beginning of 1944, the U. S. ambassador in the USSR, Averell Harriman, during every one of his visits in the Kremlin, again and again returned to the Polish problem. Acting on the instructions of Washington, he insisted that the Soviet government admit the emigre government to Poland, although he knew very well about the malicious anti-Soviet reactionary views holding sway in its midst.

Declining such demands, Moscow meanwhile did not refuse to discuss the Polish problem and sought to reach a mutually acceptable solution. In one of the talks of the People's Commissariat of Foreign Affairs with Harriman, the Soviet side made concrete proposals. Contemplated was the formation of a new government of Poles living in Poland, England, the United States and the Soviet Union --people without fascist tinge and friendly to the Soviet Union. Dr Oskar Lange, the Polish economist who taught at the University of Chicago, and the trade union leader Leo Krzhitskiy, who headed the American Slavic Congress, were named as possible members of a new cabinet.

After some time, the government of the United States issued Oskar Lange a passport for travel to the USSR. In Moscow he took part in the discussion of the question of the new Polish government. However, it was not possible to reach agreement because of the negative position of the London emigres.

The next attempt to reach agreement on the Polish question was undertaken in the summer of 1944, when members of the London emigre cabinet--S. Mikolajczyk, S. Grabski, and T. Romer--came to Moscow. The negotiations began in a business-like atmosphere and, it seemed, could lead to positive results. However, it was precisely during these days that the Warsaw Uprising broke out, which was prepared by the emigre leaders and timed to coincide with the arrival of S. Mikolajczyk and his colleagues in the USSR. During the meeting with I. V. Stalin on 3 August 1944, Mikolajczyk declared that Warsaw could be liberated by the insurgents at any moment. Thinking that the Germans would soon be expelled from the Polish capital, the emigre leaders conducted negotiations in Moscow only as a blind, in actual fact they did not intend at all to reach an agreement. They supposed that the appearance of their administration in Warsaw prior to the arrival of Soviet troops there would make it possible for them to move into the capital in full strength.

The Western press accuses the Soviet Union of deliberately failing to come to the assistance of the insurgents. For this, there are no grounds. The Soviet troops were unable to continue offensive operations. The infantry divisions and the tank corps had sustained heavy losses, the rear services and the artillery were lagging behind, and the troops did not have sufficient ammunition.

The Soviet command was not informed about the forthcoming uprising, and its leaders did not maintain any contact with them and refused to cooperate with the Red Army. Nevertheless, seeing that thousands of patriots were taking part in the uprising and were displaying the highest heroism and self-sacrifice, the Soviet command did everything possible to assist them. When the position of the insurgents became completely hopeless, the command of the Red Army proposed to them to force their way to the Vistula River under cover of Soviet artillery and aircraft. But the agents of the emigre government who were in Warsaw prohibited their units from moving toward the Red Army. Only individual subdivisions, who refused to carry out this cruel order, succeeded in breaking out of Warsaw. On 2 October the document on the capitulation of the insurgents was signed with the Hitlerites. The Warsaw Uprising was an irresponsible and criminal adventure of the government in exile in London.

But even after this, the Soviet side did not refuse attempts to settle the Polish problem. The next round of talks took place in October 1944 during the stay of the prime minister of Great Britain, W. Churchill, in Moscow. Ambassador A. Harriman was present at these negotiations as representative of President Roosevelt. The sides agreed to invite S. Mikolajczyk again. In Moscow he had a series of meetings with the leaders of the Polish Committee of National Liberation, with Soviet leaders, as well as with Churchill and Harriman. The delegation of the Polish Committee of National Liberation expressed its readiness to come to an agreement if the fascist constitution of 1935 would be abolished in Poland and the constitution of 1921, which had proclaimed elementary democratic rights, would be restored. The delegation advocated the creation of a strong Poland, friendly to the Soviet Union, within the borders of the Curzon line in the East and including the primordial Polish lands in the West. Moreover, the delegation of the Polish Committee of National Liberation agreed to the formation of a Polish government of national unification, with Mikolajczyk at the head, on the condition of granting the majority of places to the Polish Committee of National Liberation.

All of these proposals were categorically rejected by the emigre leaders. As before, they tried to secure the fulfillment of their unrealistic claims, they refused to recognize the Soviet-Polish border according to the Curzon line, and they demanded not only the post of prime minister, but beyond that half of the places in the cabinet.

The obstinacy of the leaders of the government in exile in London was roused by the behind-the-scenes support of Washington and London. When shortly before his arrival in Moscow Mikolajczyk was in the capital of the United States, during his first meeting in the White House, he asked Roosevelt whether it was worthwhile to accept the Soviet proposals. Although they were talking in essence about the proposals approved in Tehran by the Americans, viz., about the recognition of the Curzon line and about securing the friendly character of the Polish government with respect to the USSR, Roosevelt advised Mikolajczyk to delay any solution of the question about the border and in general not to hurry with the achievement of an agreement.

Thus, by the time of the opening of the Crimean Conference, the Polish problem had already a considerable history. At the plenary session of the heads of the

governments on 6 February 1945, President Roosevelt declared that he was "for the Curzon line" and expressed the hope that "Poland will be on the friendliest terms with the Soviet Union". These thoughts were also expressed in his message, which was sent on the same day to the head of the Soviet government in his residence in Koreiz. "I hope," Roosevelt wrote, "that I do not have to assure you that the United States will never support in any way a provisional government in Poland that would be hostile to your interests."

W. Churchill spoke out no less definitely about "the intention of the British government to recognize the Curzon line as it is interpreted by the Soviet government."

However, behind these common declarations serious disagreements were concealed. After the transformation of the Polish Committee of National Liberation into the Provisional Polish Government, the Soviet Union recognized it on 5 January 1945 [and] established diplomatic relations with it. Meanwhile the United States and England treated this government, which was initially formed in the city of Lublin, extremely negatively. President Roosevelt declared that public opinion in the United States "is inclined against the recognition of the Lublin government by the United States." Prime Minister Churchill noted that "now there exist two Polish governments, in the treatment of which the allies adhere to different opinions."

Churchill supported Roosevelt's proposal to the effect that here, at the Crimean Conference, a Polish government be created "up to the moment when the Polish people will be able to freely elect a government that will be recognized by the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States, as well as by the other United Nations which now recognize the government in Poland."

This was an undisguised attempt to thrust on the Poles, even without consulting with them, a government pleasing to the Western powers. The Soviet delegation rejected this proposal. The head of the Soviet government declared that a new Polish government "can be created only with the participation of the Poles and with their consent." The suitable moment for this, I. V. Stalin continued, was in the fall of 1944, when Churchill and Mikolayczyk were in Moscow. Now the relations between the Warsaw and London governments have become extremely strained. The leaders of the Warsaw government categorically object to unification with the emigre government that is hostile to it. The Soviet delegation explained that nevertheless the Provisional Polish Government would be prepared to expand its composition by virtue of other Polish political figures from abroad who have not compromised themselves.

Further I. V. Stalin emphasized that, from a strictly military point of view, a certain demand must be made on the government of a country liberated by the Red Army: It must guarantee order and tranquillity in the rear, which is one of the conditions of success in the struggle against Hitler Germany. Meanwhile the militarized formations of the London government that are situated in Poland are attacking Soviet warehouses in order to capture weapons, shoot Soviet soldiers and Polish patriots in the back, and violate orders of the Soviet command in the territory liberated by the Red Army. As far as the Polish Warsaw government is concerned, I. V. Stalin continued, its activity is useful. It is coping quite well with its tasks of securing order and tranquillity in the rear of the

Red Army. Here Roosevelt and Churchill had to admit: Attacks on soldiers of the Red Army in the rear are inadmissible.

The Soviet delegation insisted that the Provisional Polish Government already operating in Warsaw serve as the basis of an expanded Polish government. In the course of the further exchange of views, the governments of the United States and England agreed with the Soviet position.

Those who today demand the revision of the Yalta decisions, in essence infringe upon the integrity of Poland, fight for the tearing away of primordial lands from it, and aspire to undermine the socialist order.

Speaking on 21 July 1984 at the ceremonial session of the Sejm, dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the rebirth of Poland, the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, V. Jaruzelski remarked:

"Home-bred strategists are advancing various theories and are building on sand plans with respect to Poland. All new absurd designs are coming to nought. Only one idea remains and is victorious--national Poland in its present, historically justified borders. It represents as irreversible a fact of European reality as the essence of the victory over Hitlerite fascism is irreversible. The immutable and recently once again clearly confirmed position of the Soviet Union with respect to this question fully meets the vital interests of Poland.

A condition of peace on our continent is the observance of the decisions of Yalta and Potsdam and the international agreements of the 1970's, consolidated in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. At the same time, this is a condition of Polish security. Those who are today coming out against these principles are playing with fire and are placing themselves in the ranks of the enemies of our country."

The Yalta decisions have frequently been the subject of attacks by those who infringe upon the postwar order. Now we are again witnessing attacks on the Yalta Agreements. Besides Reagan, the U. S. vice-president, George Bush, not long ago in Vienna spoke in the same spirit. From Bonn, Paris, and other European capitals statements are being heard to the effect that it is necessary, they say, to reject Yalta.

On 6 November 1984, at the ceremonial session in the Kremlin dedicated to the 67th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, A. A. Gromyko, answering those who are calling into question the Yalta and Potsdam agreements, declared: "Twenty million Soviet people gave their lives for the sake of the victory over fascism. Millions of people of the anti-Hitler coalition fell in the battle for peace, for the goal that never again a threat of war would arise from German soil. It is not out of place to tell the reckless heads dreaming about revenge and the revision of the borders of the states in Europe: The German Reich burned down in the fire of the Second World War. There is and there will not be a return to it."

A. A. Gromyko also gave a sharp rebuke to encroachments on the socialist achievements of the GDR. "The revanchists and semi-revanchists of all colors, no matter where they are found, should know that the borders of our friend and ally--the German Democratic Republic--are and will be inviolable."

This is a serious warning to those who are nurturing plans to rewrite history. The nations did not endure the horrors of the Second World War and were victorious in it in order to permit the blowing up of the order on which European and general peace rests.

8970

CSO: 1807/224

INTERNATIONAL

KARPOV RECEIVES GREEK ACADEMIC DELEGATION IN GENEVA

LD272238 Moscow TASS in English 2152 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Viktor Karpov, head of the Soviet delegation to the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons, met in Geneva representatives of Greek Universities, who handed him the text of a declaration on disarmament.

During a conversation that followed they stated that they had arrived in Geneva to voice the grave worry of the Greek public over the destinies of peace and to stress that the escalation of the arms race posed a threat to the whole of mankind.

The declaration, signed by the principals of 17 Greek universities, notes, in particular, that the Soviet-U.S. accord on beginning talks to prevent the militarization of space and to put an end to the arms race on earth had been welcomed by all the countries, worried over the increased threat of nuclear catastrophe. However, the document stresses, there is the risk that these talks will become deadlocked and that the hopes for the revival of the climate of detente and disarmament will be dashed, perhaps forever, if the Reagan administration does not give up its plans to militarize space.

In the view of the Greek university principals, the fulfillment of the "star wars" program will lead to the escalation of the arms race and hamper or make impossible altogether arms control and the limitation of armaments in the future. We hope, the declaration says, that this year, in which the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism and 40 years of the United Nations are marked, will become the year of struggle for averting war, ensuring peace and developing cooperation in the world.

The representatives of the Greek universities stated that the text of the declaration would also be handed to the head of the United States delegation.

CSO: 5200/1073

INTERNATIONAL

JAPAN'S POLICIES CRITICIZED IN ARTICLE MARKING TIES WITH USSR

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 85 p 5

[Article by M. Demchenko: "For the Sake of Vital Interests: On the 60th Anniversary of Soviet-Japanese Diplomatic Relations"]

[Text] Sixty years have passed since the day when the Convention of the Basic Principles of Mutual Relations signed in Beijing between the USSR and Japan went into effect. Having established diplomatic relations, the Soviet Union and Japan expressed the hope of living in peace and friendship and pledged to observe the principle of non-interference in internal affairs and to refrain from any hostile activity against one another.

The Soviet Government strictly upheld the obligations it undertook and strived sincerely towards mutually-beneficial cooperation with Japan in all areas in the interests of the people of both countries and in the interests of peace in the Far East. The same could not be said, unfortunately, of the ruling circles in Japan.

As early as 1927 in their notorious "Tanaka memorandum," a program of expansionist campaigns against other nations was declared, including against the USSR. Having set out on the realization of this "program of aggression," the Japanese forces in September 1931 fell on China and occupied its northeast province of Manchuria.

The Japanese Government then began to call Manchuria "the first line of the defense of Japan." In actuality, it served as a strategic springboard of the Japanese imperialists for further penetration into the depths of China, and also for the preparation of an invasion into the borders of the Mongolian People's Republic and into the Soviet Far East.

How similar all of this is to the current situation in Japan, where behind an accompaniment of speeches about "the necessity of strengthening defense" the military power of the country is being swiftly built up and the myth of the "Soviet threat" is being put more frequently into motion!

However, let us return to history. Militaristic Japan, in the presence of actual encouragement on the part of the U.S. and other Western powers, ignited a hotbed of war in the Far East. The bellicose expansionist policy of Tokyo

appeared in the completion between Japan and Hitler's Germany of the "Anti-Comintern Pact," directed at its spearhead against the USSR, in numerous armed provocations by the Japanese militarists on the Soviet border, and in the concentration of armies along our borders prepared to rush into the Soviet Maritime Province and Siberia.

The logical consequence of the unrestrained militarization of the country was spread of the military expansion of Japan also to China and to the countries of Southeast Asia. Even the United States recognized the consequences of the short-sighted policy of encouraging the aggressor. But in September 1945, Japanese militarism suffered a fitting crash, having fallen under the blows of the countries of the anti-fascist coalition.

The Soviet Union made the decisive contribution to the defeat of the militant adventurism, having entered the war against militaristic Japan in the name of fulfilling its allied duty and in the name of liquidating the hearth of aggression in the Far East.

The deep changes in the political life of Japan which occurred after the war created favorable circumstances in the country for the establishment of Japanese-Soviet good-neighborly ties. The trip to Moscow in 1956 by Japanese Prime Minister I. Hatoyama was concluded with the signing of a joint Soviet-Japanese declaration. This document proclaimed a cessation of the state of war and established diplomatic and consular relations between the two countries. The declaration laid the foundation for the righting of good-neighborly ties between the USSR and Japan and played an important role in the following years in the expansion and strengthening of bilateral political, economic, cultural, and other contracts.

The fruitfulness of normalized Soviet-Japanese relations was particularly notable in the 60's and 70's, when the trade turnover between the USSR and Japan doubled every 5 years and when on a mutually-beneficial basis bilateral ties were successfully developed in other fields, including, for example, in the realization of large-scale joint projects for cooperation in the development of the natural resources of Siberia and the Far East. Seeking further strengthening of bilateral relations on the basis of the principles of non-interference in internal affairs, mutual advantage, and equality, the Soviet Union asked Japan to complete an agreement on good-neighborliness and cooperation, which would make an important step towards the signing of a peace agreement on the part of both countries.

The positive development of Soviet-Japanese relations in this period proceeded, however, as it had in the 20's and 30's, to opposition from the side of the United States, which had drawn Japan into a military alliance. Ruling circles in Japan from the end of the 70's, under pressure from Washington, began to support actively the cause of the U.S. for rejection of the policy of relaxation and for the expansion of the arms race. In Japan itself, calls are heard more frequently for strengthening the forces of the Japanese "power of self-defense," created in violation of the functioning constitution, and for the equipping of these forces with modern offensive weapons, including nuclear. Unfounded and illegal territorial pretensions against the USSR are heard more frequently in Tokyo and anti-Soviet propagandistic campaigns are bandied about.

Such actions, obviously, are needed by Washington and in certain Japanese circles for the justification of a policy of linking Japan to the strategic aggression of the U.S. and for the rebirth of Japanese militarism.

Such a course is extremely dangerous. It is fraught with serious consequences for peace and safety in the Far East, and, in the first place, even for Japan itself, which willingly or unwillingly is turning into a platform for American nuclear weapons as a forward basing point, and, consequently, even into a "nuclear hostage". The Soviet Union cannot be blamed for this. Many clear-thinking Japanese political actors and democratic forces in Japan have realized this danger and are all the more actively standing up against the rebirth of militarism and the arms race, and for preventing the threat of nuclear war.

One wants to believe that the realistic campaign for the improvement and progressive development of Soviet-Japanese relations, nevertheless, will come out on top in Japan. A basis for such hopes is given, in part, from the discussion at the fourth "round table" conference held in Moscow in October 1984 of representatives of the Soviet and Japanese populations and the joint communique at the next one in Tokyo in December of last year from the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees on economic cooperation.

The Soviet Union advanced and continues to advance a widening of contacts with the Japanese. An important step towards the improvement and development of relations between the two countries was the trip to Japan by delegates of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. In conversations with Japanese state and public figures and representatives of political and business circles, the Soviet parliamentarians recalled the Soviet initiatives and clarified the policy of the USSR, directed toward the establishment of good-neighborliness, trust, and mutually-beneficial cooperation for a mending of the situation in the Asiatic-Pacific Ocean region.

The interests of improving the international climate in Asia and in the world as a whole would be answered by the realization of the Soviet proposal on the measures of trust in the Far East putting into practice the ideas for completing an agreement of mutual non-aggression and non-use of force in relations between the states of Asia and the Pacific Ocean. The Soviet proposals relating to the conclusion of a Soviet-Japanese agreement of good-neighborliness and cooperation and the attainment of an agreement, according to which the Soviet Union would guarantee the non-use of nuclear weapons against Japan, remain in force, but the Japanese side would be pledged strictly and consequently to maintain its non-nuclear status. Other proposals have been offered by the Soviet side, in part relating to economic cooperation and links in the area of culture. They now lie without movement in Tokyo.

The historical experience of Soviet-Japanese relations speaks of the fact that they can and must be built on a firm foundation of peace and good-neighborliness. This requires mutual desire and good will.

"As they say, you cannot rewrite history," noted the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR K. U. Chernenko in an address to Japanese readers of a book of his

speeches and articles. "And even more so today in the nuclear age, when we all live in a mutually-linked, fragile peace, the necessity of returning to a situation of good-neighborly, vital ties between the USSR and Japan persistently announces itself. It is indispensable for the sake of the vital interests of the Soviet and Japanese people, for the sake of peace in Asia and in the whole world."

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CSO: 1807/236

INTERNATIONAL

SPANISH SOCIALISTS' REVERSAL ON NATO MEMBERSHIP CRITICIZED

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 85 p 4

[Article by V. Chernyshev, PRAVDA correspondent in Madrid: "The 'Cutters' Are Taking Measurements. Spain's Role in NATO's Military Plans"]

[Excerpt] Spanish socialists, being in opposition, came out against Spain's membership in NATO and promised to hold a national referendum on the subject in the event of a victory in the elections. But in October of last year, the president, General Secretary of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party (SSWP) Felipe Gonzales, suddenly expressed his support for Spain's participation in NATO. In December, after vigorous discussion, this position was adopted by the 30th SSWP Congress.

Washington was among the first to express satisfaction at this decision, having long applied pressure on Madrid in an effort to finally bring it into the orbit of American military preparations in Europe. "The United States," an official State Department spokesman said, "has always considered that Spain's membership in NATO serves the highest interests of Spain and the Atlantic Alliance. We therefore welcome the support expressed by Felipe Gonzales for Spain's continued membership in the Alliance." The U.S. administration, he stressed further, favors Madrid's full participation in the NATO political and military organization.

It is very symptomatic that the requirement to join in the bloc's military organization was suggested from across the ocean, despite the fact that in approving the country's participation in NATO Gonzales stipulated the "lack of necessity" of joining the military organization as well. Washington did not deem it necessary to maintain even a brief diplomatic silence on this matter. The Pentagon would very much like to see Spanish soldiers marching on the same parade ground with American paratroopers!

And in NATO headquarters, according to the Madrid newspaper PAIS, they would prefer to view Gonzales's statement about "lack of necessity" not as a refusal at all. "It's better for Spain to say it is not entering the military organization for the time being (we can wait, even for years) than for it to say it will never do this," a high-ranking NATO official stated to a PAIS correspondent.

In their scheming to draw Spain into the bloc's military organization, reports the Madrid press, Washington and NATO are relying on the most zealous Atlantic Alliance supporters in Spain itself. The leader of the right opposition party People's Alliance, Fraga Iribarne, for example, insists on "full inclusion". Several press organizations here have begun a broad campaign to argue that there is no sense in "stopping halfway."

At first the socialist cabinet froze the country's joining the NATO military organization. However, there is now underway a gradual involvement of Spain in the functioning of a number of the alliance's military organs. In particular, Spain has permanent representation in the NATO military committee, whose leadership was assumed in mid-November of last year by Jose Maria de Sobrinos. Last May, the chief of the general staff of Spain, Admiral Liberal Lucini, took part in this committee's sessions for the first time.

Minister of Defense Narsis Serra was present at sessions of the NATO Eurogroup, which is involved in planning and coordinating the military policy of the alliance's Western European member nations. There was discussion of the possibility of creating in Spain an area for conducting permanent training operations for NATO air forces. The minister then took part in the defense planning committee's work. These and other contacts provide grounds for the Madrid press's assertion that the "freeze" is far from a complete one. Recently, the deputy commander of NATO armed forces in the Atlantic zone, British Vice-Admiral David Hallifax, openly stated that the NATO command "privately" studied formulas for Spain's military integration with the alliance, "although we haven't discussed this with the Spaniards."

The Madrid press has often written of the role NATO bosses have assigned Spain in the bloc's military plans. Spanish officials have rushed to refute some of these reports. Others have drawn no response. Referring to a general staff officer of the Spanish armed forces, the press reported, for example, that the U.S. and other NATO countries view Spain, including the Canary Islands and the Straits of Gibraltar zone, as a strategic area "in which it is imperative to maintain supremacy on the sea and in the air, allowing the creation of air corridors for American transport planes."

They also intend to keep weapons in Spain, bringing them from overseas and placing them in depots scattered around the country. According to the Spanish press, the alliance is developing plans to build new, "super-powerful" bases, particularly in Galicia (in northwestern Spain), to expand the existing U.S. naval base in Rota (near Cadiz), and to construct new oil pipelines to provide fuel for military sites.

A recently published book by American Colonel William Hayberg is not without interest. He held an important NATO post for several years. According to Hayberg, NATO hopes to use Madrid as a "bridge" to areas beyond the North Atlantic pact's zone. Spain's long-standing ties with Arab and other Third World countries are to be used in Washington's interests in hopes of strengthening NATO's influence outside of Europe. Officials in the U.S. and NATO countries, the author indicates, are studying the question of including Spain in the West's nuclear strategy as well. Military strategists find it

advantageous to use Spanish territory for storage and siting of American nuclear weapons.

American air and naval bases in Spain are to be converted to NATO bases, reports Hayberg. At first they are to be used jointly with American and Spanish forces, with the possibility of later bringing in air and naval units from England and the FRG and from other countries during training exercises.

Although in documents prepared by Washington strategists the deployment of nuclear weapons in Spain is foreseen only "in case of war," Madrid political circles do not exclude the possibility that tomorrow this formula may be changed to another--"in case of the threat of war"--which will mean nothing other than justification to place nuclear missiles at any time.

The Madrid newspaper DIARIO-16 recently published an interview with William Arkin, one of the directors of the Washington Institute for Policy Analysis. Arkin had the opportunity to familiarize himself with documents regarding Washington's plans for using Spanish territories to conduct nuclear war. These documents show that the Pentagon foresees keeping B-57 nuclear depth-charges in Spain. Several dozen such devices are planned to be stored at the Rota naval base. "I can't say whether Spain knows about these 'war plans,' and what is the level of cooperation between the governments and armies of the two countries," stated Arkin, "but it is a fact that such plans exist. I saw the documents."

In his speech to parliament, Felipe Gonzales declared that Spain does not intend to store or deploy nuclear weapons on its territory. However, as we see, this objective does figure in Washington's plans.

So, NATO headquarters has responded in its own way to the Spanish government's decision to retain the status of 16th NATO member, and is now discussing various versions and formulas that would for practical purposes mean the country's joining the bloc's military organization. In Brussels, they are assuring Spain that it will be given the opportunity to "tailor the suit to its own measurement." There is no need to ask who will do the cutting.

However, the residents of Hospitalet, students of Barcelona University, as well as textile workers at the Madrid factory "Triumph" join the majority of Spaniards in opposing membership in this aggressive bloc, and in calling for relaxation of international tensions and the removal of the nuclear threat hovering over mankind.

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CSO: 1807/229

INTERNATIONAL

MONOPOLIZATION OF WESTERN MEDIA, ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY HIT

Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 5 Feb 85 p 3

[Article by Yu. Kashlev, doctor of historical sciences: "The Disinformation Industry"]

[Text] The rapidly developing mass media and propaganda play an important role in the fierce struggle between two courses of world politics and two ideologies. The level of knowledge of entire peoples and the degree of their mutual trust (or distrust) or, to put it another way, the international intellectual and political climate depend to a large extent on what kind of information is disseminated, by whom and to what ends, daily via hundreds of millions of television and radio sets.

Imperialism's gigantic propaganda machine opposes the mass information agencies of the Soviet Union, of other socialist countries and of progressive developing countries, which support the improvement of the international situation, durable peace, mutual understanding and progress. This machine is composed of tens of thousands of newspapers and magazines, owned by monopolistic financiers, radio and television stations, publishing houses and film companies, as well as government propaganda services set up by bourgeois governments. The processes taking place within this gigantic machine determine (and explain), to a large extent, their ideological line in international affairs.

The main process taking place today in the capitalist countries' information sphere is the growing concentration of mass information agencies in the hands of monopolistic financiers: their continually increasing conversion into an instrument for the intellectual cultivation of the masses in the interests of the ruling class and into a weapon for the struggle against the forces of socialism and progress in the international arena.

In the USA, for example, the process of setting up excessively gigantic firms ("dinosaur companies") in the mass information field has expanded. The largest corporations have more and more begun to stick their hands into adjacent information fields, with the result that there are now giants, which simultaneously possess the most modern means of communication, newspapers and magazines, radio and television stations, and a rapidly developing cable television network, etc. Thus, the biggest transaction of recent times is

considered to be the acquisition of the second-largest cable-television company by the transnational Westinghouse Corporation for \$646 million. A similar picture can be seen in other imperialist countries. In England an absolute majority of the newspapers are controlled by four concerns. In Italy even the large newspapers and magazines are being brazenly bought up by industrial corporations.

The "information industry" in the West is often called the "servant of big business". This is true, and yet not completely true. The fact is that it is not merely the "servant" but an integral part of "big business." The modern "information industry" has all the characteristics of imperialist economics: a high level of property concentration, the most modern equipment, large profits, excessive exploitation of workers, large capital investments abroad, and so on. A number of firms active in the mass communication field are included in the list of the 500 largest U.S. companies, which is published every year.

Advertising is the "umbilical cord", the means by which they are connected with "big business", and through which they receive sustenance. In the USA revenues from advertising amount to tens of billions of dollars, more than many developing countries' national income. Several years ago in Japan 1.14 percent of the cost of all produced goods was spent on advertising; in France 0.8 percent. By means of advertising regulation these countries' upper bourgeoisie maintain or undercut to the root one or the other publication or broadcasting agency.

But even this is not the full picture. In the USA for example, behind the publishing monopolies and the radio and television stations stand even more powerful giants--the so-called electrotechnical corporations, which have monopolized the production of communications and electronic equipment and which, by a system of hidden levers, direct the activities of the mass, information media. According to some calculations no more than 10 percent of the entire communications business falls into the category of news dissemination--that is, what is properly called mass information. The remainder is used for the production of modern equipment (electronic computers, communications satellites, radio and television equipment, and so forth), for research and design work in this area, and even for the production of all sorts of informational and cultural products (movie films, radio and television programs, tape recorders, video equipment, etc.) The budgets of the large corporations, which occupy leading positions in the communications industry, exceed by 10 to 100 times or more the budgets of the world's largest press agencies, the American ASSOCIATED PRESS and UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, which are just the last apparent links of the machine which is protecting the commercial and ideological interests of the American monopolistic bourgeoisie.

On the whole no more than 20 gigantic corporations, mainly American, occupy leading positions in the communications field in the West. It is characteristic of them that practically all of them belong to the military-industrial complex and that they are the military departments' largest contractors. And such a picture is evident not only in the United States. In France the military concern Matra recently bought up the "Achete" publishing

company, the largest in Western Europe, lock, stock and barrel.

What kind of information is disseminated in their countries and in the international arena by the propaganda agencies, which are, in fact, controlled by the military-industrial complex?

Without delving into history, let us look at the propaganda situation which is taking shape today around the most vital question of our time--the question of war and peace. Following the example of American political and military figures, the Western countries' mass information media widely disseminated stories about "local" and "limited" nuclear wars, about the possibility of being victorious in them, about the "advantages" of the neutron bomb, which kills people but preserves material valuables, about the "inadequacy" of the reserves of nuclear bombs stockpiled in the USA, and so on.

Turning the truth upside down, the propaganda of the USA and the NATO countries blames the Soviet Union for the arms race, "forgetting" that the USSR has already submitted in all more than 100 serious proposals on disarmament and, in fact, that the USA wrecked acceptance of the majority of them. Just in the recent 39th session of the UN General Assembly the United States voted 26 times against other countries' proposals on the questions of international security and disarmament, doing this 10 times practically in complete isolation. But does the American press really inform its readers about this? No, instead it continues to play the false note about the "Soviet threat."

In the Soviet Union a law was adopted back in 1951 which prohibits war propaganda and which also applies to Soviet foreign policy information. But in the USA the "NEW YORK TIMES" writes that the American concept of "freedom of the press" also implies complete freedom of expression--for the proponents of war. Actually, all of this is in the interests of the military-industrial complex, which derives excessive profits from the arms race.

Most recently, with the military-industrial complex's encouragement, one alarming process is still taking place--the further concentration of mass information media in the hands of those forces which openly oppose the easing of tensions and cooperation with socialist countries. In France, newspaper magnate R. Ercan, a collaborator during the war years with the Vichy regime, has laid his hands on tens of newspapers and magazines. In the USA and in England R. Murdoch, the latter-day information businessman, is doing the very same thing. He even managed to buy the London TIMES. In the FRG Axel Springer, the troubadour of anticommunism, is continuing to expand his holdings. The NEUE ZÜRCHER ZEITUNG wrote that A. Springer is engaged in selling the Cold War and, if he had his way, he would also sell a "hot" war.

The information and propaganda industry in the imperialist countries has long ago been changed into a disinformation industry, into an instrument for cultivating the masses in the spirit of anticommunism and militarism and into a weapon for the struggle against the forces of socialism, progress and peace in the international arena. Exposure of the extremely harmful and dangerous activities of the imperialist propaganda centers is one of the urgent tasks of all people of good will.

INTERNATIONAL

ANNIVERSARY OF BIOLOGICAL ARMS CONVENTION NOTED

PM281344 Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 26 Mar 85 p 3

[Vladimir Solovyev "Commentator's Opinion": "The Road to Disarmament"]

[Text] March 26 marks the 10th anniversary of the entry into force of the "convention on the prohibition of the development, production, and stockpiling of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and on their destruction." This major document, which has been ratified by almost 100 states, was essentially the first real disarmament measure in the history of international relations. Whereas other international treaties or agreements were aimed at limiting specific types of weapons and their proliferation and at creating obstacles to their use, this convention envisages for the first time the complete elimination of one of the most dangerous types of mass destruction weapons--bacteriological weapons.

The adoption of the convention was possible thanks to the tireless struggle waged by the CPSU and the Soviet state to curb the arms race, prohibit the most barbaric types of weapons, and ensure complete disarmament. Back at the end of the twenties the Soviet Union came out with a draft convention which envisaged ending in the shortest possible time the production of all means and appliances for chemical attack and bacteriological warfare and ensuring their destruction, including dismantling enterprises producing these means.

It is not our fault that it took almost half a century before this document corresponding to the interests of all humanity was ready for signing in April 1972. For many years its conclusion was hindered by those imperialist forces which gambled and continue to gamble on whipping up the arms race and fueling tension in relations between states. Even after the signing of the document they did not stop trying to circumvent the agreement and undermine it, using to that end slanderous accusations against the USSR and its allies.

As for our country, its position is clear and consistent. As Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee noted, "We will firmly follow the Leninist course of peace and peaceful coexistence." Our state's intention to travel right to the end of the road leading to disarmament has been repeatedly confirmed by history. The dozens of Soviet peace initiatives, including the convention on the prohibition of bacteriological weapons, and the USSR's readiness to reach concrete accords at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva are a vivid example of that.

CSO: 5200/1074

INTERNATIONAL

BLOC JOURNAL EDITORS' CONFERENCE ON PROPAGANDA

Moscow POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE in Russian No 1, Jan 85 pp 99-101

[Report on subjects discussed at the conference of chief editors of bloc countries' propaganda journals held in Sofia, Bulgaria, at the end of November 1984: "The Conference in Sofia"]

[Text] A conference of the chief editors of a number of ideological and propaganda publications of the communist and workers parties of socialist countries which collaborate with each other--the journals POLITICHESKA PROSVETA (Bulgaria), PROPAGANDISTA (Hungary), EINHEIT (GDR), ULS TORIYN SURGUUL' (Mongolia), IDEOLOGIA I POLITIKA (Poland) and POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE (USSR), and the newspapers TVORBA and NOVE SLOVO (CSSR)--was held in Sofia at the end of November 1984. Certain theoretical and practical problems of the effectiveness and quality of propaganda and party education were discussed, in light of the fraternal parties' decisions on ideological questions and taking into account the experience that has been accumulated.

The conference participants were received by Comrade S. Mikhaylov, secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, who informed them about the course of socialist construction in Bulgaria and the Bulgarian Communist Party's activity in the ideological and political education of communists and all the working people.

Questions related to the propaganda of Marxist-Leninist teaching by the press, which is being creatively developed and enriched under current conditions by the collective efforts of fraternal parties, and to organization of the study of theory by communists and nonparty working people were examined in the papers and reports by the chief editors of journals--S. Angelov of POLITICHESKA PROSVETA, Zs. Bencurof of PROPAGANDISTA, A. Vishnyakov of POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE and J. Kamenecki of IDEOLOGIA I POLITIKA--and J. Korzinek of the newspaper TVORBA; J. Forholzer, deputy chief editor of the journal EINHEIT; and J. Polak, secretary in charge of the newspaper NOVE SLOVO.

The great achievements of Marxist-Leninist thought lately, the comrades noted, were elaboration of the concept of developed socialism, of ways to increase production efficiency under conditions of the scientific and technical revolution, and of the formation of society's classless structure within the historic framework of the first phase of communism; the extension of ideas on the substance of the national question in the present stage and on the most important trends in international life; and the development of Leninist teaching about war and peace and about defense of the socialist motherland. These and other theoretical problems, taking into account the national specifics and historic features of the countries of socialism, are widely reflected in the pages of the fraternal journals, which provide party and ideological personnel with a correct understanding of the processes taking place in the world.

Preparation of materials devoted to the practical activity of fraternal parties for realization of the economic, social and spiritual development plans of the countries of the socialist community, for reinforcement of their unity and solidarity, and for the expansion and perfection of close relations holds a leading place in the editorial staffs' work. Particular importance is being attached to published works which tell about the dynamic development of the economic system, the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, the continuing upsurge in the people's welfare and culture, and about the natural increase in the leading role of communist and workers parties and the expansion of socialist democracy. At the same time, the problems and difficulties that still have not been resolved are being analyzed.

An important theme of statements in the party press is the persistent and consistent struggle by countries of the socialist community for peace, prevention of nuclear war, for ending the arms race, and for fundamental normalization of international relations. In the present complex international political situation, a thorough analysis is needed of the processes of world social development, the placement of forces in the world arena, the modern stage in the overall crisis of capitalism, and the upsurge in the class struggle of the working people. Under the conditions of sharp intensification of hostility between the two world social systems, the press organs of fraternal parties are taking a direct part in the ideological struggle for the minds and hearts of millions of people. The experience in preparing counterpropaganda materials which convincingly demonstrate the achievements of practical socialism and its historic advantages over capitalism and which expose the false, subversive imperialist propaganda was generalized at the conference in Sofia.

In the ideological tempering of communists and all the working people, the fraternal parties are making use of varied forms and methods and a powerful information and propaganda complex, a component part of which is the system of Marxist-Leninist education of communists and active nonparty members which is functioning in all the socialist countries. The conference participants devoted considerable attention to the activity of this system, which is aimed at shaping the scientific world outlook of the members of socialist society and the skills of applying the knowledge they have acquired in practice. I. Nuber, an employee of the agitation and propaganda department of the VSRP [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party] Central Committee, and A. Shagdar, secretary in charge of the journal ULS TORIYN SURGUUL', spoke in detail about this, in particular.

Much has been done in recent years by party committees and organizations to further improve the system for political education of the working people, for their education in the ideas of scientific communism. Active forms and methods of conducting lessons and of organizing political education are being introduced and purposeful work is being carried out in the selection, training and education of propagandist personnel. The instructional and material base of party education is being consolidated and study plans, programs and handbooks, and methods literature are being developed and published for mass circulation. The journals and newspapers regularly publish theoretical articles and advice, recommendations on methods for the appropriate courses and problems, and reports on the political education work of party organizations.

In perfecting communist propaganda as an important means of shaping a Marxist-Leninist outlook, of raising the consciousness of the working people, and of mobilizing them to resolve the vital tasks of socialist and communist construction, the fraternal parties are devoting close attention to improving its effectiveness. Guided by the methods and basic directives contained in the classic works of Marxism-Leninism and party documents, and based on generalization of the collective experience of the social scientists of socialist countries in close collaboration with experienced propaganda workers, they have done a great deal to further elaborate the theoretical and practical problems of improving the quality and effectiveness of ideological and educational work and party studies.

Information was exchanged at the conference on results of the work conducted by theoretical and propaganda personnel in analyzing and working out the problem cited. In reports by conference participants, particularly by V. Momov, secretary of the Sofia Gorkom of the Bulgarian Communist Party, and other comrades, it was stressed that the increased scope and complexity of the tasks of building a new society, the increased importance of fraternal parties' ideological and political work, and intensification of the ideological struggle in the world arena constantly require further improvement in propaganda work and an increase in its quality and effectiveness. At the same time, it was noted that determining the effectiveness of propaganda and revealing its scientific criterion is not a simple matter.

It is well known that effectiveness is the relationship of the results obtained by people, by society, to a goal set by them beforehand, conditioned by definite social and personal requirements and interests. Party propaganda also is a purposeful activity, as a result of which practical changes take place in the consciousness of the objects of propaganda. Accordingly, the effectiveness of our propaganda also may be regarded as a synthetic criterion of the intensification of the party's multifaceted ideological activity, as a generalized indicator of the extent to which efforts spent by party organizations and committees, propagandists and students in studying the party's revolutionary theory and policy contribute to increasing the consciousness and social activity of the masses. In other words, effectiveness is the degree to which a result coincides with the programmed objective when all available opportunities are utilized to the optimum extent and the minimum forces and time are expended.

Many objective factors, which are customarily subdivided in the literature into general and specific, influence the effectiveness of propaganda. The general preconditions are the economic, sociopolitical and spiritual system of a society, the people's way of life, taken as a whole and in its dynamics, the party's domestic and foreign policy, and the spiritual atmosphere in the society, the level of development of the social sciences, and the like. As far as specific conditions are concerned, they have to be considered as an aspect, a manifestation, of the overall objective preconditions in a given socioeconomic, cultural and public environment. Such social formations as the family and any production labor collective usually appear as the latter.

Speakers correctly pointed out that along with factors which contribute to the effectiveness of communist propaganda, the factors which have a negative effect on this process also are taking place. Among them may be included, in particular, violations of the principles of socialism and shortcomings and miscalculations in economic and cultural construction. The discrepancy between word and deed and omissions and shortcomings in the activity of party, state and economic organs cause an unfavorable ideological repercussion and engender negative attitudes among the people. Bourgeois propaganda actively attempts to obstruct the increased consciousness of the working masses and their education in the spirit of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and socialist patriotism and internationalism.

Of course, it is necessary to take all these factors into account in the propaganda process, to be guided by the positive ones, and to develop them, reinforcing their influence on the consciousness of the members of society and overcoming the influence of negative factors at the same time.

It was emphasized at the conference that along with the external, objective circumstances with respect to propaganda, the status of ideological work itself also is of great significance in achieving a high degree of successful results for it. The thought expressed in the course of the discussion concerning the inseparable link between the effectiveness and quality of propaganda, and the dependence of the former on the latter, appears to be fruitful. Other things being equal, quality determines the effectiveness of ideological activity and party education.

Quality, in turn, is determined by the content, methods and organization of the propaganda process. Enhancing in every possible way the scientific level, topicality, and political and ideological direction of communist propaganda and its militance [boyevitost']; reinforcing its link with life, with solution of urgent political and socioeconomic tasks; perfecting the forms, means and methods of study, of disseminating and interpreting the theory and policy of fraternal parties; and improving the selection and training of propaganda personnel and the management of the diverse system of ideological influence on the masses--this is the way to achieve high and lasting results for our propaganda.

How are they expressed, these results? In other words, what are the criteria for the effectiveness of propaganda, of party and political studies? These questions, naturally, were at the conference's center of attention.

Questions related to the practical activity of editorial collectives also were discussed at the Sofia meeting. The deputy chief editors of the journals POLITICHESKA PROSVETA, Y. Danev, and POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE, P. Svehnikov, and department managers of the journal IDEOLOGIA I POLITIKA, R. Kondrat, and the newspaper NOVE SLOVO, L. Slabey, reported on the basic directions of the press organs they represent, on work with authors, on study of the composition and inquiries of readers, and other matters.

The conference participants unanimously stressed the fruitfulness of collaboration among fraternal journals and the necessity of developing it further, and of increasing the effectiveness of work on study and dissemination of the experience of fraternal parties' political and educational activity. All this will make it possible to resolve still more successfully the common task for the propaganda of Marxism-Leninism, proletarian and socialist internationalism, the class education of communists and all working people, and for their mobilization to resolve the supreme tasks of building a new society.

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CSO: 1807/210

NATIONAL

RELIGIONS' ANTI-COMMUNIST STANCE SCORED

Moscow AGITATOR in Russian No 4, Feb 85 pp 38-41

[Excerpts from article by V. Klochkov, doctor of juridical sciences:
"Clerical Anticommunism"]

[Excerpts] Clericalism has always striven to strengthen to the utmost the role of religion and the church in the political and spiritual life of society and to justify and defend the exploiters' order. As a sociopolitical trend, it is historically one of the first varieties of anticommunism. It is not the illusion of communism wandering around Europe, but a revolutionary renewal of the world is taking place, a transition from capitalism to socialism. The anticommunism of Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Muslim clerics has become increasingly militant and their alliance with the most reactionary forces of the outdated order is increasingly tight. Imperialist reaction unites all varieties of anticommunism in a "holy persecution" of all advanced and developmentally progressive humanity. In this regard, right-wing clerical circles fulfill the role of the striking ideological and propagandist power of imperialism and come out against social progress and peace on earth.

Ruling circles in the United States are threatening to "write off" communism, to leave it "in the ashes of history"; they are waging a self-proclaimed "crusade" for allegiance to religion against socialist countries. In the opinion of noted historian Arthur Schlesinger, the president of the United States has declared the new "cold war" a holy war. According to Reagan, heaven itself supports his nuclear programs and is against the nuclear weapons freeze movement. Nuclear theology such as this, suggests the scholar, can lead to catastrophic consequences.

Bourgeois propaganda is using religion to discredit scientific communism in an increasingly active manner for antisoviet and antisocialist purposes. Abusing people's religious convictions and feelings, reactionary clerics and bourgeois propaganda centers attempt to justify the extreme aggressiveness of imperialism by the need for waging a struggle against godlessness and immorality; they attempt to convince the masses that communism does not have the right to existence and must be overthrown in theory as well as in practice.

As is well known, external and internal counterrevolutionary forces aspired to use religion in attempts to overthrow the socialist order in Hungary (1956) and Czechoslovakia (1968). Attempts have also been launched in Poland.

In the name of religion, Afghan counterrevolutionaries supported by the forces of imperialism and international reaction are coming out against the people's power. Zionist leaders and clerical circles of Israel cover aggression against Arab countries with the Holy Scripture.

Of course, it is impossible to identify an attitude toward the problem of war and peace for reactionary church circles and religious organizations as a whole. Representatives of various national churches and participants at many international religious forums have been known to come out against militaristic politics.

Clericalism cannot help but take into account demands of a mass of believers--participants in the antiwar movement. At the same time, it is stirring up anticommunist propaganda and coming out against socialist countries in a united front with imperialism in a fierce psychological war. Behind the clerics' words concerning the protection of religion, spiritual values, morality and rights of the church from atheism hide far-reaching political goals: an aspiration to discredit Marxism-Leninism, to attain the ideological and moral erosion of socialist society, to revive nationalistic vestiges in it and to create internal opposition to the new order.

Not having found themselves in a position to refute Marxism-Leninism, they are increasingly focusing their attacks on its atheistic aspects. Thus they proceed to frank juggling of the facts: scientific communism is identified with atheism and the forcible liquidation of religion is proclaimed the main goal of its proponents.

Right-wing circles of the Vatican Curia have also intensified attacks on scientific atheism. They present "materialistic atheism" as an obstacle on the path to progress, the source of humanity's degradation, and reiterate its propagation's danger to the destinies of civilization. They use false interpretations of Marxist-Leninist atheism for slanderous distortions of life in our society. Even the Roman pope has not refrained from traditional right-wing clerical accusations against socialist governments for "violation" of the freedom of religion.

The Vatican instruction issued on several aspects of the "theology of liberation" does not discuss genocide against its own people on the part of a military clique that had seized power, nor violation of human rights by pro-American regimes, but speeches of the faithful and Catholic priests against these very grave crimes.

Hostile religious propaganda takes into account the social, age, national and other characteristics of citizens of our country. It also takes into consideration the fact that part of the believers in the USSR perceive Catholicism, Islam, Judaism and Protestant and other dogmas in their own

way as national values. Clerical propagandists of every stripe, trying to rekindle nationalistic attitudes and to undermine the friendship of the USSR nations maintain that the atheistic state supposedly infringes upon national culture, upon the religious and other rights of citizens belonging to national minorities, particularly Jews.

International Zionism, while conducting a "total campaign" against the Soviet Union, proclaimed in the early 70's, is coming out under the false slogan "defense of the Soviet Jews". Methods of falsifying the past and present are being used in the bourgeois press and radio broadcasts to the USSR, together with anti-Soviet attacks and lying and slander about persecutions and discrimination against Jews and obstacles to the development of Jewish national culture.

Anticommunist propaganda, clerical and secular, gives special attention to the problem of the struggle of atheists against religion, tendentiously characterizing it as coercion in regard to religious organizations and the faithful. This is an ill-intentioned distortion of history and the present. Indeed, the struggle against religion is inherent to the very process of the development of religion.

Clerical and secular anticommunists silently skirt the many centuries of persecution of the opponents of religion by the church and exploiter government. Nor do they write about how the bourgeoisie enkindled religious enmity among workers, so as to deflect their attention from basic economic and political questions. This policy is used even in our day by imperialistic reaction, for the separation and weakening of antiimperialist forces.

In "refuting" Marxism-Leninism, clerical propaganda claims that positions therein concerning its incompatibility with religious ideology and the need to fight against it are important ones, and imputes to it the intention to forcibly liquidate religion.

Bourgeois-clerical propagandists are not in a position to go beyond the limits of the bourgeois world view and understand a fact that is apparent to every Marxist: any coercion in relation to the church and believers in connection with their religious convictions and activity merely strengthens religion.

The nationalization of its property by the Soviet government is taken for coercion against the church. It is known that the Soviet state has expropriated all types of private property and that nationalized buildings for worship and religious articles have been turned over for use free of charge by religious associations.

The position of Soviet law concerning the need for registration of religious associations is taken for persecution of religious freedom. It is a juridical fact, without which religious associations cannot attain their rights, including the right to receive buildings for worship and religious articles by agreement with the executive committee of the local soviet of

people's deputies. Registration does not in any way hamper the activity of a religious association; on the contrary it is a necessary prerequisite.

There is one more myth--concerning persecution of ministers of the church and the faithful in the Soviet Union, whether it be for their religious beliefs or their loyalty to the church.

In full compliance with international law and generally accepted principles of freedom of conscience and of religion, Soviet legislation classifies infringements upon the social order, personality and citizens' rights under the guise of propagation of dogma and the performance of religious rites as criminal acts.

Exploiting the lack of juridical information on the part of many believers, clerical and secular anticommunist propaganda and religious extremists maintain without producing any proof that Soviet legislation concerning religious cults supposedly contradicts the standards of international law concerning freedom of conscience.

The USSR constitution guarantees USSR citizens the right to profess any religion or not to profess one at all, to perform religious rites or to engage in propaganda; it guarantees equal rights for citizens regardless of their attitude toward religion; it bans the inciting of enmity and hatred in connection with religious beliefs (articles 52, 34). Significant limitations of the rights of citizens according to their attitude toward religion are crimes according to Soviet legislation (Art. 142 RSFSR Criminal Code and corresponding articles of criminal codes of other union republics).

Constitutions of bourgeois states, proclaiming freedom of conscience take this only as freedom of religion. In not one of these states is the right of a man to have and express atheistic convictions even declared; discrimination against citizens in connection with such convictions is not prohibited.

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CSO: 1830/415

REGIONAL

KASSR: 1980-1984 INDUSTRIAL, ECONOMIC GROWTH CLAIMED

Alma-Ata PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN' KAZAKHSTANA in Russian No 2, Feb 85 (signed to press 28 Jan 85) pp 35-40

[Article by V. Ipatov: "For the Wellbeing of Soviet People"]

[Excerpts] Over a period of five years the gross social product increased by more than 4 billion rubles and basic production funds increased by 24 billion rubles. Over 60 major industrial enterprises and hundreds of shops were put into operation.

Production efficiency rose noticeably over the past two years: the pace of growth in labor productivity increased in industry and construction and the input of materials per unit decreased.

Nonferrous metallurgy is one of the outstanding sectors of republic industry; its products are widely in demand both in our country and abroad and are shipped to more than 30 countries. The quality of its basic types meets the highest world standards. This is the final result of the fact that this sector has developed from a source of ore, concentrates and raw metals into a major producer of many types of rolled stock, alloys and rare, rare earth and precious metals. Over the period just ending the new enterprises of the Zhayrem, Zhazkent, Karagayly, Vasil'kov and other combines were put into operation, as were new mines, concentration factories, repair bases and a number of other projects.

Tremendous raw material resources allow the chemical and petrochemical industries to be developed at a fast rate. In the 1980-1984 period the volume of goods produced by this sector increased by over 40 percent. Such a fast growth rate is achieved as a result of new capacities in the production of phosphorus, industrial rubber items and synthetic fiber, as well as in petroleum refining.

With the January 1984 start-up of the eighth electrothermal furnace at the Novozhambul Phosphorus Plant the installation of this chemical giant was complete. Earlier the Chimkent Tire Plant and a plastics plant in Shevchenko were put into operation. At the beginning of January of this year a State Commission signed the act putting the first phase of the Chimkent Oil Refining Plant into operation; this plant will refine gasoline and diesel fuel from Siberian petroleum.

The role of the republic as one of the country's fuel and energy bases grew significantly. The eighth turbo-unit was put on line at the Ekibastuz GRES #1. This will soon allow that power station to reach a projected capacity of four million kilowatts and will turn Kazakhstan into a major supplier of electric power to the Urals and the European part of our country. On the eve of last year current began flowing through the Ekibastuz-Kokchetav high tension line; this is the first phase of LEP [Power Transmission Line] #1150 from Ekibastuz to the Urals. The construction of the South Kazakhstan GRES and Ekibastuz GRES #2 continues to unfold. It is essential to note that in comparison to 1979 production of electricity in the republic has increased by more than 15 billion kilowatt-hours, which has raised it to third place in the country.

The significance of Kazakhstan in the development of the coal industry increased over these years. An increase in coal yield by surface mining throughout the country was achieved primarily by Kazakhstan miners. When the Bogatyr' Open Pit Mine -- the largest in the world -- reached its projected output the annual volume of production by this method exceeded 52 million tons. In the republic as a whole coal yield had grown by 20 million tons as compared to 1979.

A whole series of prospective petroleum fields have recently been discovered in the territory of Western Kazakhstan, thanks to active exploratory work by geologists. This allowed a third specialized production association to be set up in the republic: Aktyubinskneft'. It is being developed at an accelerated pace; over a two-year period oil production increased almost threefold.

In the period just ended the capacity of existing enterprises in ferrous metallurgy increased significantly. A number of new production items appeared at the Ermak Iron Alloys Plant and at the Karaganda Metallurgical Combine. Incidentally, when the largest tin plate shop in the USSR reaches its projected capacity, the production of light-gauge sheet metal for the canning industry will increase almost twofold.

The resource base was strengthened even more. Additional iron ore production capacity has been put into operation in the Sokolovsko-Sarbay Mining and Concentration Combine, as well as new chromite ore capacity at the Donskoye Combine. Today one ton of iron ore in 10 and almost 100 percent of chromite output come from Kazakhstan.

Machine building is one of the sectors which is ensuring the introduction of scientific and technical advances in production. This sector's pace of development was swift. In the 1980-1984 period production volume increased by more than 26 percent. The Stepnogorsk Bearing Plant and the Taldy-Kurgan Alkali Storage Battery Plant began operations; new production capacity was added at a whole series of enterprises.

The role of machine building in the technical reequipping of other sectors increased: the production of over 100 items of new types of machines, equipment and instruments was mastered.

Over the first three years of the five-year plan in sectors subordinate to the KaSSR Council of Ministers 498 mechanized flow, fully mechanized and automated lines for the production, bagging and packaging of goods were set up. Many enterprises are proceeding with the introduction of robot technology in production.

Over a 10-month period of last year republic industry conserved a total of 87.2 million rubles worth of physical input.

Despite extremely unfavorable weather conditions, over a four-year period of the current five-year plan sovkhoses and kolkhoses produced over three billion poods of grain. Workers in Kzyl-Ordinsk and Chimkent oblasts fulfilled their purchase plan in four years; agricultural workers in Aktyubinsk Oblast are already working in the 12th Five-Year Plan. Grain producers in Eastern Kazakhstan, Kzyl-Ordinsk and Semipalatinsk oblasts successfully carried out assignments for grain sales in the past year.

Positive changes have taken place in livestock breeding. Over the first four years of the five-year plan 5.7 million tons of livestock and fowl (live weight) were sold to the state, as well as 9.6 million tons of milk and 225,000 tons of cleaned wool. In volume, republic production of eggs and astrakhan wool exceeded quotas over the four-year period.

Land improvement has undergone further development. The total area of irrigated lands in the republic reached 2.2 million hectares last year. Irrigation systems are being created and new sovkhoses are being organized in the zone around the Irtysh-Karaganda Canal and on irrigated lands in Kzyl-Ordinsk, Chimkent and other oblasts. The Great Alma-Ata Canal, over 170 kilometers in length, is an important component of the republic Food Program. Covering approximately five percent of total land area, irrigated lands today produce 28-30 percent of all agricultural production. On a single irrigated hectare goods worth an average of 500 rubles are produced, whereas the sum for a nonirrigated hectare is less than 100 rubles.

The social transformation of villages continues. Thousands of kilometers of roads have been laid, including ones reaching the most distant settlements. Total electrification of production and installment of gas facilities in houses and apartments are being completed. Private subsidiary farms of workers, collective farmers and service personnel are undergoing development. Suffice it to say that agricultural enterprises have begun to take demand into account in the production of fodder.

The results wasted no time making themselves evident. For example, 245,854 tons of milk were purchased from private plots in 1979; in 1984 this figure was 296,205 tons.

Thanks to the positive changes mentioned, the demographic situation in the productive and social spheres has improved noticeably; the out-migration of young people from villages has been reduced. The village intelligentsia has increased in both quality and number.

Along with material production sectors, science is turning into a direct productive force; its role in resolving the economic and social tasks facing our society is growing. Four new institutes of the KaSSR Academy of Sciences have been organized and a Central Kazakhstan Department of the republic Academy of Sciences set up in Karaganda. Each year the Academy of Sciences presents approximately 170-190 studies in the fields of geology, mining, nonferrous metallurgy, chemistry and biology.

As compared to 1979 real per capita income in the republic increased by 9.5 percent. The average monthly salary for workers and service personnel came to 183 rubles in 1984 as opposed to 164 rubles in 1979.

Pay bonuses were introduced for individual categories of doctors for uninterrupted length of service. Wage rates and salaries for workers in the coal industry and in mine construction were raised, and a whole series of measures implemented to raise the level of pay for agricultural workers.

Payments and benefits from public consumption funds increased in the republic over a five-year period by 1.3 billion rubles and now exceed 7.1 billion rubles. As a result of these funds material and living conditions have been improved for veterans of the Great Patriotic War and for lifelong invalids. Retirement pensions as well as incentives for retirees working in the national economy were also improved. The number of places in children's preschool institutions grew to almost 155,000 and schools were built to accommodate 377,400 pupils. Women with two or more children were granted the right to three days' additional vacation. The introduction of partially paid maternity leave for working mothers up until the child's first birthday was completed, with simultaneous extension of unpaid leave up to one and a half years and the granting of a one-time childbirth assistance payment.

Great attention was devoted to the construction of a network of hospitals, and steps were taken to improve medical services for the populace.

In the 1980-1984 period over 500,000 apartments with a total area of almost 30 million square meters were built in the republic. Thanks to such extensive construction approximately three million people improved their living conditions. A large part of the newly available housing is distributed on this principle: a separate apartment with all conveniences for each family. In our country housing space is built primarily with public consumption funds.

One of the indicators of growing prosperity is an increase in the volume of retail trade, the growth rate of which was 12.4 percent over the 1980-1984 period. The populace's demand for furniture, dishware of metal, china and pottery, cotton and woolen fabrics, sewed and knitted goods and various objects for cultural and everyday use was satisfied better. The sale of passenger cars to the populace increased by more than one quarter, sale of furniture more than 20 percent, sale of color television sets 2.4 times over, etc.

It is vital to speed up the reduction of the number of collectives lagging behind in industry, concentrate resources more energetically, eliminate the dispersion of funds in construction and sharply increase the quality of construction and installation work, particularly on projects for purposes of socialist cultural and everyday life.

In 1985 it is projected that 90 percent of the increase in the national income and 75 percent of growth in industrial production will result from increases in labor productivity.

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CSO: 1830/426

REGIONAL

KASSR: EDUCATION REFORM PROGRESS, PROBLEMS CITED

Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jan 85 p 1

[Editorial article: "Strides of Reform"]

[Excerpts] Educational reform has become a reality of our society's life

The first steps to upgrade training and education are being taken during the current academic year. This effort is furthered by the ever widening adoption of this republic's educators of ideas on optimizing the training and educational process, other achievements of pedagogical science, and leading experience. Noticeable progress has been made in organizing vocational training for students. All secondary schools and a majority of 8-year schools now have their own training workshops. One hundred sixty six interschool training-production combines are in operation, providing training to more than 34 percent of 9th and 10th grade students. More than 5,000 work positions have been created for seniors directly in industry, as well as 568 kolkhoz and sovkhos work training centers. Schools have expanded their use of the vocational training resources of vocational and technical institutes. Ninety eight percent of 7-9th grade students work and study in student labor societies. Nearly half of the seniors in rural schools are mastering agricultural vocations. Educators of the Tselinograd, Kokchetav, and North Kazakhstan oblasts provide an example of skillful organization of vocational training under today's conditions.

Long-term plans for reform measures have been developed and approved by sessions of local soviets in all oblasts, rayons and cities of the republic. Work groups for monitoring the progress of project implementation operate in the KASSR Ministry of Education and in all oblast departments of public education. In some areas, however, plans for implementing reforms are of a declarative or formal nature, with no concrete objective or provisions for those responsible, and lack a system of monitoring. Many directors of executive committees of city and rayon soviets of people's deputies and public education departments have an over-simplified idea of the tasks before them or lack initiative, still expecting some sort of instructions "from above".

The switch to educating children starting at the age of six is not a one-time undertaking. Beginning in the 1986-87 school year, it will be brought about over a number of years to the extent allowed by the creation of additional

spaces for students and teacher training, taking into account parents' wishes, the level of students, and local conditions. A certain number of children will still be taught in preparatory kindergarten groups. We must be concerned with accelerating the switch to educating six-year-olds in our schools, but this concern should be manifested in systematic work on creating a material educational base, rather than in hurried, willful decisions.

In recent years, the government has devoted considerable resources to reinforcing and developing schools' material and educational base, but the employment of these resources leaves much to be desired. Plans for capital construction of public education facilities chronically go unfulfilled. One of the largest contractors--the KaSSR Ministry of Rural Construction--ended the current year without completing any aspects of the public education facilities construction plan. The republic's Ministry of Rural Construction is not fulfilling the potential of building schools with its own resources. Plans for erecting and implementing new educational construction are not being carried out in the Ural, North Kazakhstan, Dzhezkazgan, and Turgay oblasts.

Reform involves increased demands on the qualitative makeup of teaching personnel. The situation is far from ideal. Only 64 percent of teachers now working in schools have a higher education. Not all is well with teaching personnel in terms of quality, either. By the 1986-87 academic year, the republic's schools will require an additional 6,000 primary grade teachers. Problems of the scope and quality of teacher training must be addressed immediately. Plans to this effect already exist. Enrollment is currently being increased by 550 in pedagogical institutes and by 100 in university level programs for primary grade teachers. Correspondence training of teachers in the latter category is being expanded. Accelerated courses for training young high school graduates to be primary grade teachers are being created in pedagogical institutes as a temporary measure. Institutes of higher education will increase training of teachers in other critical specialties. Executing these plans, however, does not release the KaSSR Ministry of Education and the republic's Gosplan from the responsibility of preparing teaching personnel on a more long-term basis. Effective measures are also needed to keep teachers now working in the schools. About 4 thousand teachers live in private apartments in rural areas alone. The situation is even more complex in the cities and workers' towns. School reform demands decisive measures to improve teachers' living conditions.

A long-range plan to develop and strengthen the educational and material base of vocational training in the schools has now been confirmed by joint orders of the KaSSR Ministry of Education with 24 other ministries and departments of the republic.

The closer we bring together the schools and the production sector, the sounder will be the return from school reform.

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CSO: 1830/312

REGIONAL

UKRAINIAN SUPREME SOVIET SESSION DETAILED

Session Opens

AU270922 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0745 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] As reported, the first session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation opened today in the Session Hall of the republic's Supreme Soviet in Kiev. A session of the Council of Elders of the Supreme Soviet was held on the eve of it. It examined issues concerning the agenda and the organization of the session proceedings.

At 1000 hours, the audience gave a warm welcome to Ukrainian Communist Party and government leaders.

The session was opened by Socialist Labor Hero Mykola Tymofiyevych Yurchenko, one of senior deputies to republic's Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Premoha Komunizmu kolkhoz in Lokhvitskiy Rayon, Poltava Oblast.

Those present paid tribute to the memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, prominent party figure and statesman and consistent fighter for the triumph of the ideals of communism and peace on earth, with a one-minute silence.

The Supreme Soviet moved on to the election of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet chairman and his deputies. The floor was offered to Deputy Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and second secretary. On behalf of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, he moved--and was unanimously seconded by the Council of Elders and the party fraction in the Supreme Soviet--to elect Deputy Kostyuk, director of the Bogomolets Physiological Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and Socialist Labor Hero, as chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet. This motion was adopted unanimously. Platon Hryhorovych Kostyuk took his seat at the Supreme Soviet Chairman's table. He expressed deep gratitude for the great honor shown to him in electing him chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and assured the Supreme Soviet that he would do his utmost to justify the high confidence. The session also unanimously elected Tetyana Andriyivna Havrylova, chairman of the Zdobutok Zhovtnya kolkhoz in Talnovskiy Rayon, Cherkassy Oblast; Mykola Kuzmych Zadoya, Dnepropetrovsk Obkom second secretary; Ivan Stepanovych Plyushch, Kiev Oblispolkom chairman; Volodymyr Mykolayevych Chumachenko, mining machine

operator in the Novodonetska mine under the Dobropolye coal mining association, as Ukrainian Supreme Soviet deputy chairman.

The deputies unanimously approved the session's agenda encompassing the following items: the election of the Credentials Commission of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet; the election of the Presidium of the republic's Supreme Soviet; the formation and election of permanent commissions of the Supreme Soviet; the work performed by the republic's administrative and economic bodies to increase the production, to expand the choice, and to improve the quality of goods for the population; the formation of the Ukrainian government--the Council of Ministers; the formation of the republic's People's Control Committee; the election of the Ukrainian Supreme Court; and the approval of the decrees issued by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium. The session proceedings were also approved.

The Supreme Soviet passed to the examination of the first item on the agenda. The deputies unanimously elected the Credentials Commission of the Supreme Soviet. Deputy Kryuchkov, department chief of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, was elected its chairman.

The session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet is continuing its proceedings.

Presidium Elected

AU271106 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0845 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpts] As reported, the first session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation opened in Kiev today.

After a short intermission, Deputy Kryuchkov, chairman of the Credential Commission of the Supreme Soviet, delivered a report on the results of the check on the credentials of Ukrainian Supreme Soviet deputies.

The Supreme Soviet unanimously adopted an appropriate decision on the report by the Credentials Commission.

The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet then passed to the election of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium. The floor was offered to Deputy Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary. On behalf of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, he--seconded by the party fraction and the Council of Elders of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet--moved to elect Valentina Semenovna Shevchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium deputy chairman, as chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Supreme Soviet unanimously elected Shevchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member, as chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Having expressed heartfelt gratitude for the great confidence invested in her, Valentina Semenovna Shevchenko, on behalf of the Council of Elders, seconded

by the party fraction, presented a motion concerning the composition of the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium. The session elected the following deputy chairmen of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium: Bakhtin, Roshchupkin, and Shcherbina. Deputy Khomenko was elected secretary of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium. Presidium members of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet were elected.

The session formed permanent commissions of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, and approved their composition and commission chairmen.

The session is continuing its proceedings.

Lyashko Forms Government

AU271119 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0915 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] At the morning sitting of the first session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation, which opened in Kiev today, Deputy Kryuchkov delivered a report on behalf of the Credentials Commission.

The session constituted permanent commissions of the republic's Supreme Soviet and approved their composition and chairmen.

The acting chairman read a declaration by Deputy Lyashko, Ukrainian Council of Ministers chairman, that--in accordance with the constitution of the Ukrainian SSR--the republic's Council of Ministers regarded its duties as discharged and resigned its commissions to the newly elected Ukrainian Supreme Soviet.

The floor was offered to Deputy Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary. On behalf of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, Vladimir Vasil'yevich Shcherbitskiy moved to approve the activity of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers. While positively assessing the work performed by Aleksandr Pavlovich Lyashko as the republic's Council of Ministers chairman, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee resolved to recommend him again for this high post. This motion was approved by the party fraction and the Council of Elders. A motion was also made to authorize Deputy Lyashko to present to the Supreme Soviet a proposal concerning the composition of the Ukrainian Government. The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet unanimously approved the activity of the republic's government, appointed deputy Lyashko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member, chairman of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers, and authorized him to present to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet a proposal concerning the composition of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers.

The Ukrainian Council of Ministers was commissioned to continue to discharge its obligations until a new government of the republic is formed.

The session passed to the fourth item on the agenda--the work performed by the republic's administrative and economic bodies to increase production, expand the selection and improve the quality of goods for the population. Deputy Kachalovskiy, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Council of Ministers first deputy chairman, is now delivering a report on the item.

Session Ends

AU271712 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1515 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The first session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation has just ended its proceedings.

The deputies who participated in the discussion on Deputy Kachalovskiy's report noted that an important program was being put into effect in the Ukraine to raise the living standards of the population. The deputies made concrete proposals aimed at improvements in the work of enterprises manufacturing consumer goods.

Deputy Kachalovskiy delivered a concluding speech.

The session adopted an appropriate decision on the item discussed.

The floor was offered to Deputy Lyashko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Council of Ministers chairman, who made a proposal concerning the composition of the Ukrainian Government--the Council of Ministers. The proposal was approved unanimously.

Aleksandr Pavlovich Lyashko made a statement on the future activity of the republic's Council of Ministers. The session adopted a decision approving the main guidelines for the future activity of the Ukrainian Government.

The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet constituted the republic's People's Control Committee and elected the Supreme Court of the Ukrainian SSR.

A report on the approval of the decrees issued by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium was delivered by Deputy Khomenko, Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium secretary. The session adopted a law approving the decrees of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium.

With this the first session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation completed its proceedings.

CSO: 1811/30

REGIONAL

ROLE OF ELDERS' COUNCILS IN PROPAGANDA AGAINST RELIGION

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 11 Jan 85 p 2

[Excerpts from article by O. Musayev, candidate of philosophical science, in the column "From the Practice of Ideological Work": "An Elders' Council"]

[Text] In the countryside of our Republic you will not find a settlement where a council of elders has not been set up. As a rule its activities touch upon all aspects of village life--socialist-economic, political and cultural.

The elders' councils actively assist party organizations in the provinces in many areas of village life. They expose and criticize slackers and shirkers, propagandize the ideas of Soviet patriotism and friendship among peoples, denounce and in a number of cases suppress such immoral phenomena as drunkenness, parasitism, money-grubbing, quackery and family quarrels, inculcate in daily life progressive popular traditions and ceremonies and eliminate vestiges of religion.

The elders' councils play an important role in the moral education of adolescents and youths, helping them to achieve an active position in life and a conscientious attitude toward their duty to society and readiness to rise to the defense of the achievements of Socialism. With their active assistance museums and reading rooms dedicated to the glory of battle and labor are being founded. The museums are seldom empty: here meetings between war and labor heroes and young people are set up, and the enrollment of schoolchildren in the Young Pioneers and the Komsomol is conducted.

One of the most important problems that elders' councils are helping Party and Soviet bodies to solve is training in the Communist attitude toward labor and socialist property. Many elders' councils, by offering their own example, foster these qualities in countrymen.

Especially valuable is the activity of the elders' councils that is directed against religious prejudices and survivals of the past. In this respect the experience of the Elders' Council of the Kolkhoz "Communism" in the Khalach Rayon is instructive. Until quite recently funerals were still being performed here according to the Muslim funeral rite. Now on the initiative of the Elders' Council, which is headed by Kyrbangel'dy Veliyev, innovations are being introduced into the funeral rite carefully and without outraging the feelings of the faithful; they are gradually supplanting the religious ritual. Instead

of an unintelligibly pronounced prayer at the funeral meeting there are farewell speeches of work comrades in which the merits of the deceased are recalled, mournful music and the laying of a wreath on the grave--all this creates in the participants of the funeral an emotional mood appropriate to the sad occasion. And for the relatives and closest friends of the deceased the simple and sincere words of those who grieve in their heart over the irreplaceable loss sound more profound in these minutes than religious consolations.

The extirpation of religious rites and rituals from village life is facilitated to a considerable extent by the great work on inculcating and propagating new rites like Komsomol weddings, a celebration in honor of labor and war veterans, solemn send-offs of youths joining the ranks of the Soviet Army and the get-togethers of generations. In villages the results of the labor year are summed up under festive conditions--during the harvest holidays.

The ceremonies of family life occupy an important place among the new rituals and traditions. A wedding, the birth of a child, a house-warming, a coming of age and a family anniversary are conducted according to rituals that reveal and confirm the beauty of the new attitudes. And in the majority of cases it becomes obligatory for members of an elders' council to share in the bother of arranging all these festivals. With their participation questions as to the organization of a Komsomol wedding are decided: the procedure for conducting the wedding, a count of the invitees, the scale of the outlay and the cost of the presents. Of course, calculation of the means of the family is necessary in every case.

While inculcating something new in daily life, the elders are also introducing into these occasions elements of the good customs of their ancestors. Combining what is new with the old traditions exerts a great emotional influence on those taking part in the festivals.

A great many additional examples of the positive work of elders' councils in the countryside can be adduced. In our opinion it would be useful to analyze and generalize their experience not only on the scale of a rayon but also on the scale of the Republic, convening for this purpose a meeting or conference of elders. It is necessary to work out a position concerning elders' councils and to equip them with scientifically based and practically useful recommendations.

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REGIONAL

NEED TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF TURKMEN LOCAL PRESS OBSERVED

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 12 Jan 85 p 3

[Article by TurkmenINFORM: "Important Tasks of Journalists"]

[Text] On January 10 a conference of journalists of the Ashkhabad Oblast was held in Ashkhabad to hear reports and elect officials. A summary report was delivered by Chairman of the Board of Administration of the Oblast journalists' organization and Editor of the Ashkhabad Oblast newspaper Oktyabryn Yalkymy S. Annatyyev. He emphasized that, continuing the Leninist tradition, the Soviet press, radio and television are featuring the militant propagandist, the agitator and the organizer of the masses and are actively helping the party and the people to solve the urgent tasks of building Communism and molding the new man. The journalists of the Oblast relate their work to the demands of the times, the decisions of the party and the conclusions contained in the addresses and speeches of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet K. U. Chernenko. They bring to the masses a fund of profound information about all questions of Socialist economic life, tell of remarkable achievements, propagandize progressive methods and criticize deficiencies. At the same time, the speaker emphasized, people expect more profound, interesting publications and broadcasts and more boldness and consistency in formulating pressing problems. Appraising their own work exactly, journalists must carry on a persistent creative search, heighten their professional mastery and strive for effectiveness in their productions.

The speakers at the conference talked about the necessity of being on the lookout for what is new and progressive, striving for greater accuracy and practicality in their work, and disseminating more widely the best methods of editorial collectives.

A new staff was elected at the Conference for the Board of Administration of the Oblast journalists' organization. Editor of the Ashkhabad Oblast newspaper Oktyabryn Yalkymy S. Annatyyev was elected as its chairman.

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REGIONAL

SHORTCOMINGS IN EDUCATION DISCUSSED IN ASHKHABAD

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 12 Jan 85 p 3

[Article from TurkmenINFORM: "About Tomorrow's School"]

[Text] Participants in the meeting of the Board of the TuSSR Ministry of Education that took place in Ashkhabad discussed results of the development of education in the Republic in 1984 and the tasks for 1985 that stem from decisions of the April (1984) and October (1984) Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, from conclusions contained in the program address of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Comrade K. U. Chernenko at the meeting of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and from decrees of the Second Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Eleventh Convocation, and of the December Session of the TuSSR Supreme Soviet, Tenth Convocation.

It was noted that in the past year popular education agencies and pedagogical collectives of the Republic's schools continued work on putting into practice the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and of the 22nd Turkmenistan CP Congress. The efforts of popular education workers were directed toward a further increase in the quality of instruction and of the labor and moral training of school-children in the light of the theses of the reform to be implemented in the general education school. In this connection great importance was attached to consolidating the results already attained in implementing universal secondary education, to improving work on inculcating conscious discipline in students and to overcoming formalism in appraising results of the work of teachers and students. The level of the students' labor instruction, training and vocational orientation was raised.

The board also noted that in the activities of oblast, town and rayon departments of popular education and of the Republic's schools there are serious deficiencies and unsolved problems in the organization of the teaching and educational process, in the staffing of schools and of preschool and extra-scholastic institutions with pedagogical personnel and in strengthening the instructional and material basis of the educational institutions. Ways of eliminating the deficiencies were outlined at the meeting of the board.

Participating in the work of the Ministry of Education Board were Deputy Chairman of the TuSSR Council of Ministers R. A. Bazarova and Chief of the Science and Educational Institutions Department of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee E. Ovlyakuliyev.

REGIONAL

TELEVISED PRESS CONFERENCE IN LATVIA TAKES VIEWERS CALLS

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Feb 85 p 6

[Article by O. Meshkov, PRAVDA correspondent: "Hello, Comrade Minister"]

[Text] Riga, 21 Feb— "Hello, Comrade Minister, I would like to ask a question." These are some of the words heard over four telephones during televised press conferences.

A regular press conference of this kind devoted to the fulfillment of the Food Program aroused great interest on the part of viewers. K. Shpogis, deputy chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, and A. Brill' and V. Kurpnieks, the ministers of agriculture and of the food industry, had been invited to it. The conversation went on far into the night with participants who were not only the invited guests but also many viewers from various corners of Latvia. The numbers for direct contact with the conference secretariat had been provided earlier. As a rule up to 150 calls are received during an evening. Naturally, it is not possible to answer all calls at once. Latvian television therefore continues the conversation throughout the month, and all questions are thus given detailed replies.

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CSO: 1830/402

REGIONAL

BENEFITS OF COORDINATED MASS MEDIA DISCUSSED

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 15 Feb 85 p 2

[Article by N. Peresun'ko, editor of the newspaper ZAPORIZ'KA PRAVDA:
"Man and Technology"]

[Text] The Press: effectiveness of the word. Under the conditions of the whirlwind growth in scientific and technical progress, the mechanization and automation of production and the reduction of manual labor have become of primary importance. Zaporozhye Oblast has acquired considerable experience in solving this problem, and the local mass media and propaganda agencies have played an important role in disseminating it. The oblast newspaper ZAPORIZ'KA PRAVDA serves as a particularly good example of the development of this topic. The journalists' creative quest, and the success of their efforts are the theme of the article published below.

We began the development of the topic we are speaking of with the publication of a joint letter from the oblast's prominent figures and heroes of socialist labor — metallurgists, mechanical engineers, construction workers, and scientists, calling for persistent efforts to reduce manual labor. The authors did not limit themselves to a simple appeal. They suggested holding an oblast competitive inspection to check the technical level of industry and how well it is supplied with machinery and power, to uncover tangible reserves, and to develop, literally for every work place, specific plans to reduce manual labor.

The appeal was approved by the buro of the oblast party committee, and met with broad support in the oblast's labor collectives. All the mass media of information and propaganda were effectively involved in publicizing the inspection. We published items on shock brigades, articles on production innovators, economic surveys, feature stories and sketches. The press turned its attention to the best experience, and starkly revealed shortcomings.

Our labor correspondents reported, for example, that at the Zaprozhprom-armatura /expansion not given/ PO /industrial association/ only 65 percent of productive capacity was being utilized, that manual labor was widespread, and that there were many production shortfalls. Our paper

carried out a mass raid on the plant, however there was no followup of energetic measures to eliminate the shortcomings. In a second article we criticized the party raykom, and this time criticism produced results. There was a tightening up of plant management, party organization and technical services. In just one year the amount of manual labor in the plant was reduced by 24 percent, and there was an increase in the number of fully mechanized sections and lines. The plant started to function steadily, and was soon the winner in an All-Union competition in its sector.

Another example. I recall that the brigadier of an integrated brigade of the seaport of Berdyansk came to our editorial offices. He told of heavy manual labor in loading and unloading operations, of indifference of management to the problem of mechanization, and of much downtime for railcars and ships. The paper supported the brigadier, and a number of articles followed. They were discussed by the party committee and the port management. A program to mechanize operations was worked out, and fully integrated brigades were set up. Complete mechanization reached a level of 99.2 percent.

The participants in the inspection considered that their chief tasks were to discover reserves and to monitor the introduction of complete mechanization and automation and the utilization of equipment. The raid brigades did not just record shortcomings. They tried to analyze them, to understand what was being done, and what had to be done to utilize reserves and disseminate advanced operating methods. And they spoke out sharply against whatever was hackneyed or apathetic. And not just in industrial production.

For example, the average load on a machine operator in the oblast's kolkhozes and sovkhoves has been 120-130 hectares. But in the mechanized team of Hero of Socialist Labor V. M. Voronin (Zaporozhye Sovkhoz) 10 machine operators cultivate 3,108 hectares, and the total output from each of them has reached 60,000 rubles per year. Among the factors in this high productivity are the adoption of improved equipment and a high degree of mechanization of operations.

It was here, for example, that for the first time in the oblast use was made of a hitch for sowing that was developed by the Melitopol Institute for the Mechanization of Agriculture and of methods of inter-row cultivation. Where formerly three tractors were needed (and therefore the same number of operators), they now get along with one. Our paper has reported in detail on this experience, but it did not immediately receive the required dissemination. It became necessary to criticize the experts in the oblast's agricultural administration, and certain managers. The hitches have now become commonplace in practically every kolkhoz and sovkhov.

The picture for mechanizing the harvesting of vegetables has been the same. For example, the use of combines to harvest tomatoes was lagging

because of a lack of the necessary varieties of this crop. This problem was clearly laid out in the pages of this paper by the vegetable growers of one of the sovkhozes. The paper returned to this subject several times, but the Sortsemovoshch /expansion not given/ Association did not acquire enough seed of the varieties of tomatoes suitable for machine harvesting.

The oblast press devoted much attention to the implementation of the program worked out by the party obkom and the oblispolkom to construct mechanized threshing floors, feed stations and feedlots. Raid materials were published, and the supervisory assistance of industrial enterprises was widely publicized. This program has already been successfully accomplished.

I would like to touch on the matter of coordinating the efforts of the mass media. Joint announcements in the press and on oblast radio and television have worked out well for us. The same topic is publicized by various media and from various angles. Synchronizing the efforts of newspapers and the television screen (or radio) produces a positive effect.

A typical example. Correspondents from ZAPORIZ'KA PRAVDA and television, along with some experts, went to the machine building enterprises in Melitopol and Berdyansk to see how robots were being adopted. Shortly before, the paper had reported in detail on the adoption of robots at the Communard Motor Vehicle Plant. During the raid it became apparent that the machine builders of Melitopol and Berdyansk were in fact having nothing to do with robotization. The journalists proposed to the local experts: Go and visit Communard. They took the suggestion. They visited the autoworkers, got acquainted with their experience, and ordered the appropriate drawings. On the whole, the affair has moved off dead center. In a word, in the oblast today there are more than 200 robots in operation, which have freed hundreds of people from heavy manual labor.

Today it is unthinkable that matters of mechanization and automation or the introduction of new equipment could be successfully solved without the aid of science. Our paper is eager to serve as a forum for the scientists of VUZes and scientific research establishments, and the editors enlist them to prepare economic target surveys and other materials, and the pages of our paper carry the rubric "Science for Industry".

The oblast party organization is directing and coordinating a multifaceted effort to reduce manual labor, and our paper is attempting to give a broad and many-sided demonstration of the organizing work of party organizations in this regard. Serving this purpose are the rubrics: "Party Life: We are Reducing the Volume of Manual Labor", and "Party Work Is Also Industrial Efficiency". We are also paying steady attention to matters of ideological support.

Management means mainly dealing with people. At the Zaporozhye Abrasive Combine, where more than 2,500 women are employed, one is clearly aware of this simple but so important truth. In recent years dozens of devices have been developed here, many processes have been mechanized and automated, and hundreds of workers have been liberated from manual labor. New ventilating facilities and systems to damp noise and vibration have been installed mainly where women are working. The combine has an excellent dispensary and a kindergarten-nursery with a pool and a winter garden. Conditions for interesting and productive work have been created for the women, and the combine has virtually no labor turnover.

ZAPORIZ'KA PRAVDA has more than once reported in detail on the experience of the abrasives workers, and has shown by their example what economic and social benefits are achieved by concern for the reduction of manual labor, and what is commonly called the human factor in production.

In the previous and the present five-year plan the oblast has lightened the labor of more than 100,000 persons, including more than 30,000 in agriculture; and liberated more than 45,000 persons from heavy manual labor, including 20,000 women. However, we are far from having done everything possible. And this has stimulated the people of Zaporozhye to new efforts. Using their acquired experience, journalists are seeking new approaches to the subject, intensifying the development of it, and achieving high effectiveness for their words.

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CSO: 1830/402

REGIONAL

NEWS BROADCASTS TO STAVROPOL BY SATELLITE DISCUSSED

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Feb 85 p 6

[Article by V. Pankratov, PRAVDA correspondent: "Newspapers Via Sputnik"]

[Text] Mineralnyye Vody (Stavropol Kray), 16 Feb— Images of the pages of the 12 central newspapers that are printed in the local printshops of the Stavropol Kray party committee in editions of more than 1.5 million copies have started to be transmitted from Moscow via satellite.

Landlines, cable and radio-relay, were formerly used for this. They were not shielded from interference, caused mainly by the changeable weather conditions in the Northern Caucasus. As a result, the quality of the main operational procedure suffered. The situation has changed radically with the use of an artificial Earth satellite.

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REGIONAL

LETTERS TO EDITOR DISCUSS PROBLEMS IN NEWSPAPER DELIVERY

Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 14 Feb 85 p 3

[Article by V. Chernov, under the rubric "Regarding the Press": "More About 'Cold' News"]

[Text] The editors have received many letters since publication of the critical notice "'Cold' News" (SOVETSKAYA KULTURA, 24 Jan 85). And every one of them testifies to the unsatisfactory delivery of newspapers and magazines to subscribers.

"Unfortunately, the state of affairs with us is no better than in Gorkiy", reports the Zamskiy family from Pskov. "We receive such newspapers as SOVETSKAYA KULTURA, KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA, and MEDITSINSKAYA GAZETA, and the weekly ARGUMENTY I FAKTY two or three, and sometimes four, days after they are published. As in Gorkiy we also have only one mail delivery per day, likewise between noon and 3 pm. The situation with the retail network is also poor: the newsstands simply do not receive such publications as MEDITSINSKAYA GAZETA, SOVETSKAYA TORGOVLYA and KNIZHNOYE OBOZRENIYE, and it is impossible to get the weeklies SOBESEDNIK, NEDEL'YA and GOVORIT I POKAZYVAYET MOSKVA."

F. Vinokurova complains of the negligence of the postal workers of the 45th Communications Section in Novosibirsk. "The postal workers," notes our reader, "somehow consider it normal to deliver the issues of the newspaper SOVETSKAYA KULTURA, that come out on Saturday, on Thursday of the following week, and Thursday's issue on Sunday. This is the best case, because at times the paper is simply not delivered to the subscriber. This happened with the January 1st, 4th and 6th issues of SOVETSKAYA KULTURA."

We can still hope that the postal workers will succeed in delivering the lost issues, even though late.

The situation with the delivery of newspapers and magazines is no better in Zaporozhye.

After publication of the critical notice "'Cold' News", we had a right to expect a reply from the Gorkiy postal workers with some information about

steps taken on the facts brought to light in the paper. But it seems that they have set themselves the goal of giving us also a demonstration of their slowness. At any rate, the editors have not received a reply to date. Then I. Kazakov, a reader in Gorkiy, sent a letter providing new facts as evidence of failings in the work of local postal employees.

"The newspaper SOVETSKAYA KULTURA dated 19 January," he writes, "was not delivered to me until the 26th. The guide GOVORIT I POKAZYVAYET MOSKVA, which comes out on Wednesday, is often not delivered until Monday of the following week. Magazines are somehow available right away for retail sale, but not to subscribers until 10-15 days later. There have been cases where they were not delivered at all, but by then it was impossible to buy the required issue at a newsstand. As a result, one must endlessly telephone or go to the post office, where they have one answer: 'The publisher has not sent them. We know nothing about it.' And the publisher replies: 'We do not deal directly with subscribers; inquire at the post office.'"

So we have a closed circle. Who will break it? If the Gorkiy postal workers are not in a position to do it, can't the USSR Ministry of Communications assist them?

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